Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

July 14, 1945 No. 119

SECRETARY ANDERSON in an address to the Advertising Federation of America in New York City on July 11, promised that the American people will receive the facts about agriculture as fast as they can be released. ". . . Our own self interest", he said, "demands that there shall be plenty [Food] in America and a sufficiency everywhere in the world. If the Department of Agriculture and its related public agencies are to be at all effective in the solution of this terrific problem they must have the help of an understanding and cooperative public opinion."

Touching briefly on his policy for agriculture, Mr. Anderson said: ". . . I have stood as the apostle of abundant production and plan to do everything I can to help bring about the greatest yields the American farms have ever known. That's number one. And number two is closely related. I want to see the government fulfill its promises on price supports to the farmer so that the farmer will be protected against the possibility that this very patriotism and hard work will not become the instrument of his own destruction. . . ."

****

DISTRIBUTION OF MEAT. . . . Better distribution of meat to help ease shortages in certain areas is expected to result from War Food Order 139 signed by the Secretary on July 13, which authorizes non-federally inspected slaughterers to file application for certification under the Patman amendment. Under this order the Department will be responsible for certifying that meat produced is suitable for human consumption, but State or local authorities may provide inspection service in accordance with Department standards. Periodic examinations of plants certified will be made by the Department.

To obtain certification for a specific slaughtering plant the applicant must show that (1) OPA price, rationing, and other regulations are being and have been observed; (2) the meat will move in legitimate trade channels within legal price ceilings; (3) the plant meets sanitary standards to be prescribed in the regulations; (4) meat production will be conducted under the supervision of qualified veterinary inspectors providing inspection before and after slaughter; and (5) the plant will cooperate in providing such meat for governmental agencies as may be required. Plants certified will not be subject to quota or other slaughtering limitations.

* * * * * *

AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS. . . . July 6, Representative Pace was appointed as the Chairman of the House Food Investigating Committee succeeding Secretary Anderson. July 9, the Senate passed a bill to provide for Triple-A tobacco marketing-quota elections and to specify CCC loan rates for tobacco.

* * * * * *

LIBRARY
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD
☆ JUL 20 1945 ☆
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

THE BEGINNING OF FARM SAFETY WEEK on July 22 will be emphasized by Ned Dearborn, President of the National Safety Council, at 7:15 p.m. EWT July 21, as he speaks from Chicago over Mutual Broadcasting Company. Secretary Anderson will take up the discussion from Washington the last half of the 15-minute program.

* * * * * *

GIRL SCOUTS PLAN "SHARE THE FOOD DAY.". . . Nation-wide observance of "Share the Food Day" on September 18 is the plan of Girl Scouts for bringing home to themselves and the public the need for helping feed the people of Europe and Asia. On that day they and all who join with them will eat meals similar to those being served in allied or liberated countries. The menus obtained from accredited war relief agencies for the purpose furnish a striking contrast to our daily menus, the group reports.

Representatives of the Department and the Office of War Information and many interested individuals cooperated with the Girl Scouts in making their plans. Nine other youth serving agencies who may join them to make the plan a nation-wide youth effort were also consulted. In the May 12 Calendar, Girl Scout goals for Victory Gardens, preserving food, and devoting 650,000 hours to farm aide work this summer were announced. "Share the Food Day" will round out a full summer program for more than a million members of the organization.

* * * * * *

AWVS ALSO PRESERVES FOOD AT HOME. . . . The importance of growing and preserving food at home is emphasized by American Women's Voluntary Services Inc., as one of the activities deserving the support of its members during the last lap of the war and in the transition period. In the July issue of this organization's National Cover Letter, which is sent to local groups, this and other appeals for help from these volunteers are listed. During the war AWVS members have devoted millions of hours to helpful services in communities all over the country. Its leaders are now calling on them to heed President Truman's appeal to "Work, work, work," as their services will be needed throughout the reconversion period.

* * * * * *

U. S. DELEGATES NAMED TO CARACAS CONFERENCE. . . . Among the delegates approved by the President to represent the United States at the Third Inter-American Conference on Agriculture, opening at Caracas, Venezuela, July 24, are the following from the Department: Under Secretary Hutson, who will serve as Chairman of the United States group; and L. A. Wheeler, Director of OFAR, who will serve as Vice-Chairman; H. H. Bennett, Chief of SCS; Philip V. Cardon, Administrator of ARA; Howard R. Tolley, Chief of BAE; and M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work. In addition, the delegation will include a number of educational and farm leaders.

* * * * * *

"SPRING TIME IN JULY" is the title of the Consumer Time show for July 21--12:15 p.m., EWT over NBC. A veteran Victory Gardener, reasoning that fresh vegetables from his own garden would taste just as good in the late fall as in midsummer, starts a replanting program. How spring time can come to a garden in July is thus dramatized. On July 28, a pick-up from the third annual Pan-American Conference on Agriculture at Caracas, Venezuela, is scheduled for the show.

* * * * * *

FILMS IN THE MAKING. . . . Production has started on two more Department motion pictures--one, on Federal meet inspection and the other on freezing fruits and vegetables. Both are planned for release during the summer

* * * * * *

SUGAR DISTRIBUTION. . . . Distribution of sugar by primary distributors in the United States from January to May 1945 totaled 2,775,154 short tons, raw value, compared to 2,549,032 tons in 1944, according to the Sugar Branch of the Office of Marketing Services. Exports of sugar for liberated areas, lend-lease, and military relief, excluding sugar used by U. S. Expeditionary Forces totaled 186,462 tons. Sugar for local consumption in Puerto Rico during January-May 1945 totaled 51,608 tons; in the Territory of Hawaii, 33,598 tons.

Stocks of sugar on hand May 31 amounted to 828,167 tons, compared to 1,343,620 tons at the same time last year. Principal sources of supply were Cuba, continental cane, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. Sugar stocks have been severely depleted. "Invisible stocks" of sugar in the hands of consumers or on grocers' shelves are small. This means that current supplies of sugar are being used as they are produced. In other words, sugar is tight and will remain so during the coming months.

* * * * * *

SOME GLEANINGS FROM THE CROP REPORT. . . . Total crop production for the whole country promises to be well above average--not quite in the bumper class of 1942 and 1944, but higher than for any of the other years on record, the July 1 crop report indicates. Prospects are very good for wheat, rice, oats, potatoes, milk, eggs, sugar, several fruits and vegetables, hay and pasture, flaxseed, and tobacco. On the debit side is corn with an expected crop 543 million bushels less than last year, also a smaller-than-average rye crop, and some spring crops adversely affected by weather conditions. In some areas growth of plants and progress of work is far behind normal because of drought or excessive rains. For a more detailed summary of the crop report, see USDA release No. 1280-45-3.

* * * * * *

USDA RELEASES OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE . . . . Support program for dry beans--1261; Trial crop insurance program proposed for potatoes--1262; Developments in the use of DDT for control of mosquitoes--1271; Acreage and indicated production--1274; Negro Extension workers make plans to help farmers produce more food--1281; Preventing infection from ticks--1287; Orlando scientists develop new insect repellent--1288; 1945 crop acreages and sows farrowed --1296; CCC loans on 1944-crop cotton-1297; Flood loans to farmers--1301; Slaughter certification order effective July 15--1307.

* * * * * *

BEEF AND LAMB SET-ASIDES REDUCED. . . . Reductions in set-asides of Federally-inspected beef and lamb for Government purchase, effective July 15, 1945, include: Army-style beef, from the current 30 percent to 25 percent; Kosher beef, in the northeastern area (zone 9) from 25 to 20 percent; and lamb, from the current 15 percent to 10 percent of the production of AA, A, and B dressed carcasses weighing 30 to 70 pounds. This action was taken when it was found that the current set-asides were producing more beef and lamb for the Armed Forces than allocations called for.

* * * * * *

"THE WORLD NEEDS SEED" is the slogan on a one-page leaflet just off the press which will be distributed through county and State offices of Triple-A in its program to increase production of alfalfa, red clover and alsike clover seed. Copies are also being sent to seed processors who are cooperating with Triple-A in the program. The number of the leaflet is AIS-23.

* * * * * *

REPORT FROM PUERTO RICO. . . . The report of the Federal Experiment Station in Puerto Rico, which has now been received, covers the following subjects: Insecticidal-crop, drug-crop and, food-crop investigations; plant introduction and propagation; control of insect pests and diseases; bamboo production and industrialization; agricultural engineering; vanilla; essential oils; coffee; soil conservation; publications; literature citations. According to the report the most important part of the station's program last year was the shipping of 2 million cuttings of the rotenone-producing plant, Derris elliptica, to other areas of the Caribbean and to Latin America. This--to insure a supply of the product nearer the United States where it is in great demand as an insecticide. About half of our supply was formerly obtained from Japanese occupied areas. A limited supply of this 44-page report is available from the Office of Information.

* * * * * *

RECENT USDA PUBLICATIONS. . . . Outline of suggested specifications for purchasing processed fruits and vegetables, Misc. Pub. No. 565, 18 p.; Regional studies of time of planting and hill spacing of sweetpotatoes, Circ. No. 725, 20 p; Use of commercial fertilizers in cotton production, Circ. No. 726, 26 p; Flue-cured tobacco resistant to bacterial (Granville) wilt, Circ. No. 727, 7 p.; Resistance of dent corn inbred lines to survival of first-generation European corn borer larvae, Tech. Bul. No. 893, 10 p.; Feeding cottonseed products to livestock, Farmers' Bul. No. 1179, 13 p. (Rev. May 1945). The home fruit garden in the East Central and Middle Atlantic States, Leaflet No. 218 (slightly rev. June 1945), 8 p.; Home-made Jellies, Jams, and Preserves, Farmers' Bul. No. 1800 (slightly rev. June 1945), 18 p.

* * * * * *

TIMELY FARM TOPICS. . . . On one side of a Timely Farm Topics platter scheduled for cutting July 17, Gove Hambidge of ARA will discuss the control of rabies. On the other, O. F. Johndrew of OMS will voice a plea to save egg cases.

* * * * * *

A MEATY MARCH OF TIME. . . . News on the meat problem is part of a "March of Time" motion picture which has been released to commercial theaters. A message by Secretary Anderson concludes this item.

* * * * * *